

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)
BETWEEN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA)
AND
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA)
FOR
PROGRAM SUPPORT

I. BACKGROUND

Traditionally, the FAA and NASA have worked closely together to advance new technologies that would enhance the operating efficiency and safety of civil aircraft. Six program areas have been defined for major activities that are mutually beneficial to the mission of both agencies. These six areas are human factors, severe weather, cockpit/air traffic control integration, airworthiness, environmental compatibility, and program support. Each area has a separate MOU giving the rationale, objectives, and examples of the types of research activities in that area. This MOU defines the FAA/NASA activities that will be conducted under the category of program support.

II. RATIONALE

It is recognized that the FAA and NASA have certain common interests in conducting research and development activities on a continuing basis. The FAA has responsibilities for operation of the National Airspace System (NAS), the certification/regulation of airmen and aircraft, and associated research and development activities. NASA has responsibilities for conducting basic/applied research, developing new technologies, and operating unique research facilities.

In order to be responsive to national needs and realize efficiency with respect to the continuing research and development activities of each agency, coordinated planning and shared use of unique facilities is in the interest of both organizations. Collaboration on research and development activities, wherever and whenever appropriate, will help ensure that significant technologies are effectively developed and transferred to application.

III. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this MOU is to establish a means for strengthening the working relationship between the FAA and NASA by locating FAA engineering field offices at NASA centers to conduct research and communication/coordination, and by providing a mechanism for support of unique programs such as the Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS).

Cooperative or joint activities covered by this MOU will include, but not be limited to, the following:

A. FAA Engineering Field Offices at NASA's Langley and Ames Research Centers

FAA Engineering Field Offices located at NASA's Langley and Ames Research Centers provide for accomplishment of independent FAA research and development projects utilizing NASA's unique facilities, participation in cooperative or joint research activities at the respective NASA Centers, monitoring and coordination of cooperative R&D activities conducted by other FAA organizations, and a means for FAA to maintain cognizance of significant NASA research and facilitate its transfer to meet operational needs. Research activities are identified in FAA/NASA Memoranda of Agreement (MOA's) or Inter-Agency Agreements (IAA's) and are monitored by the FAA-NASA Coordinating Committee.

B. ASRS

In 1975, the FAA instituted a voluntary ASRS Program designed to acquire previously unobtainable information identifying potential safety concerns in the NAS. To help strengthen the voluntary participation in this program by ensuring anonymity to individuals who filed reports, the FAA relies on NASA, by joint agreement, to administer the ASRS Program.

IV. AUTHORITY

A. NASA

This agreement is entered into on behalf of NASA under authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, as amended, 42 USC 2473 (c)(5) and (c)(6), as implemented by NASA Management Instruction 1050.1C.

B. DOT/FAA

The acquisition of services described herein between the FAA and NASA is authorized under section 302K of the FAA Act of 1958.

V. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT/DIRECTION

Cooperative direction shall be implemented at three levels:

- A. Policy direction shall be provided, after joint conference, by the Executive Director for System Development of the FAA and the Associate Administrator for Aeronautics, Exploration and Technology of NASA, or their appointees.
- B. Program coordination shall be provided by the Associate Administrator for Advanced Design and Management Control of the FAA and the Director for Aeronautics of NASA. They will jointly review and recommend for approval any MOA/IAA for specific research programs being conducted under the overall objectives of this MOU and within the policy guidelines of "A" above.
- C. Specific program implementation and direction shall be provided by the appropriate organization director within the FAA and the appropriate division director within the Office of Aeronautics, Exploration and Technology of NASA, or their appointees. They or their appointees will jointly prepare Technical Program Plans and MOA's/IAA's as needed for specific research programs. MOA's/IAA's will normally be required for programs having a transfer of funds or resources between agencies. (Any agreements entered into which involve the expenditure of funds will be processed through normal procurement channels.)

VI. MILESTONES AND REPORTS

Detailed objectives, schedules, and reports will be developed as part of each individual MOA/IAA.

VII. FUNDING

The intent of the FAA and NASA is to share in the funding of any cooperative/joint program, consistent with the approved operating plan of each agency. Each MOA/IAA will identify the task assignment and incremental funding over the period of performance.

VIII. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

This MOU shall be effective when signed by both parties and shall remain in effect unless modified, extended, or terminated by written request of either party and subsequent agreement by both parties. All subsequent MOA's/IAA's shall incorporate appropriate periods of performance.

AGREED:

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION**

BY: Joseph M Del Balzo DATE: 8-15-90

TITLE: Executive Director for System Development

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

BY: [Signature] DATE: MARCH 15, 1990

TITLE: Associate Administrator for
Aeronautics, Exploration and Technology